

State Wide Shared Objectives

The BOCES Regional Information Centers (RICs) in New York State have identified the following mission statement and shared goals. These goals will be collaboratively achieved by all RICs.

“We are a collaborative of BOCES Regional Information Centers providing leadership and efficient, effective technology solutions for the purpose of supporting management, learning and student achievement.”

State Technology Leadership

- Work in conjunction with members of the State Education Department in order to enhance state, regional and local technology plans and related processes.
 - Technology Survey due October 16, assisting districts with process as needed
 - All districts in the WNYRIC were certified by the RIC and have been approved by SED
 - Smart Schools and Tech Plan Update meeting scheduled for March 9, 2016
 - Technology Survey Meeting Update was held May 19, 2016
 - Tech Survey due to WNYRIC on June 30th
 - Portal closes September 1
- Provide assistance to the Smart Schools Review Board and New York State school districts, as the state implements the Smart Schools Bond Act.
 - Listserv has been created. WNYRIC has a service to assist schools.
 - Updates continue to be furnished through the listserv. Next review board not yet scheduled. Mid to late June is target. A July meeting is also being suggested.
- Continue to partner with NYSED in order to provide districts with support related to computer-based testing initiatives.
 - A technical awareness session occurred December 1 for RICs and BOCES regarding the new Questar system. A training for RICs, BOCES and districts participating in field testing is scheduled for 1/12 8:30 – 12:30. Both technical and test administrators are encouraged to attend. Remote sites in the region are available.
 - Participate in weekly calls with SED regarding NYSAA and 3-8 CBT. Continue to provide updates to the field with new and updated information.
 - WNYRIC team provided testing and troubleshooting for CBT platforms and regularly provided input to SED for improvements. SED acknowledged the team's efforts and support for the process.
- Analyze service challenges and opportunities associated with transitioning to next-generation K-12 assessments.
 - Technical resources may be needed in buildings in order to assist with issues as they occur. Districts are encouraged to complete sample testing when the system is available.
- As 94% of school buildings participating in RIC supported networks have broadband capacity of 100 MB or higher, explore opportunities to expand regional networks in order

to support other agencies', such as public libraries, efforts to provide comparable services.

- WNYRIC is working with the Chautauqua County Library System, 2 libraries are on the network as a pilot. Next steps to be discussed.
- Erate bids were advertised and the Chautauqua County public system wants to move forward with connecting more sites. The pilot has been very successful in increasing the use of their libraries. A meeting is set up to discuss this in March.
- Library system is still making decisions on whether or not to add new sites through the WNYRIC internet connection. There have been very preliminary conversations with the library system in Orleans Niagara as well.

State Data Leadership

- Monitor, enhance and expand the RICs' Common Data Views Initiative. The Common Data Views Initiative provides educators, across the state, with access to a common data analysis package that can be leveraged to support discussions related to effective teaching strategies.
 - Common Data Views for 3 – 8 ELA and Math assessments are available for 2014-2015 school year.
 - Common Data Views for Regents Assessments are in test. WNYRIC reports are available now.
 - WNYRIC team developed and made templates available to all RICs to be used for January Regents reporting.
- Develop a long term strategic plan related to data analysis dashboard services.
 - WNYRIC is taking the lead in a statewide committee effort. Committee to be formed late September.
 - Direction from Commissioner to provide data to RICs earlier and therefore RICs will be able to release reports earlier to the field.
 - RICs sent a proposal to SED with early release dates for the 3-8 ELA and Math Common Data Views. Waiting for approval.
 - Common Data Views for ELA were released through the DW reports on May 18th. June reports will be released on the 3rd.
- Continue to assist NYSED in communicating important information related to NYS data, assessment, and accountability initiatives.
 - District Data Coordinator meetings are scheduled for the 2015-2016 year.
- Monitor, expand and refine the data integration, federation, and security state initiatives that were implemented during the 2014-2015 school year.

High-Quality, Cost-Effective Services

- Continue to form service partnerships and encourage specialization around products and services, as appropriate.
- Continue to offer a collaborative catalog of technology integration professional development offerings, at no cost, to districts participating in their local Regional Information Center's Model Schools Service.

Leveraging Economies of Scale

- Continue to work collaboratively on bids, RFPs and contracts that address statewide needs.
 - STEAM RFP awarded 9/9/15 Contracts to follow: iDesign, Dreambox, A+Educators, C8 Sciences, Brian Hurricane, eSpark, Ten Marks, Answer Pad, Teq, Blue Ribbon